

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A device for lock-fixing an apparatus [[(1)]] comprising a front face [[(10)]], and at least two lateral sides [[(12)]] designed to be mounted in a rack [[(2)]] comprising side walls [[(21)]] along which the lateral sides [[(12)]] of the apparatus [[(1)]] are inserted, said device comprising:

[-] first [[(13)]] and second [[(22)]] fixing elements respectively secured to the two lateral sides [[(12)]] of the apparatus and to the side walls [[(21)]] of the rack, the first element being moved by operating a handle (14, 14a) in order to interact with the ~~other element~~ second fixing element to fix the apparatus in the rack,

[-] a mechanism (15, 15a) for locking said handle,

[-] the handle [[(14)]] having a gripping member (141, 141a) connected to a handle body [[(142)]] situated on a lateral side [[(12)]] of the apparatus,

characterized in that wherein :

[-] the locking mechanism comprises a sliding hook [[(151)]] situated on one of the lateral sides [[(12)]] close to an edge of the front face [[(10)]] and a compression spring [[(152)]] arranged so that, in the locking phase,

[-] the handle being operated by the user in a rotary movement to fix the apparatus, the handle body [[(142)]] moves along the lateral side comprising the hook [[(151)]], retracting said hook [[(151)]], thus freeing said handle [[(14)]] to pass,

[-] after the passage of the handle, the compression spring [[(152)]] repositions the hook (151) thus serving as an abutment to said handle body in the locked position.

2. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the hook [[(151)]] has a bearing plane [[(157)]] interacting with a bearing plane [[(146)]] of the handle body to serve as an abutment.

3. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said bearing planes are in a plane parallel to the sliding axis of the hook.

4. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said bearing planes are in a plane beveled relative to the sliding axis of the hook.

5. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 2 to 4, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the bearing plane [[(146)]] of the handle body extends longitudinally, its longitudinal dimension being greater than that of the bearing plane [[(157)]] of the hook.

6. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the locking mechanism [[(15)]] comprises a compression spring [[(152)]] associated with an abutment [[(153)]] used to hold the hook in the abutment position for the handle body in the locked position of the handle.

7. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the apparatus ~~having~~ has a front face with a rim arranged on at least one of its sides, the sliding hook and the compression spring are integrated into a housing [[(110)]] formed in said edge.

8. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the apparatus having a front face rimmed by a frame [[(11)]], said rim forms one side of the frame.

9. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 6 to 8, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the locking mechanism also comprises a pushbutton [[(154)]] secured to the hook and situated on the front face of the apparatus allowing a user to retract the sliding hook to unlock the handle.

10. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 9, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the pushbutton [[(154)]] may be moved in a housing [[(111)]] one edge of which forms said abutment [[(153)]] for the sliding hook.

11. (currently amended): The device as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 9 or 10, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the locking mechanism comprises a plate [[(155)]] for closing said housing.

12. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 6 to 11, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ a slope [[(156)]] is made on the sliding hook [[(151)]] allowing said hook to be retracted during locking of the handle.

13. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of~~ the preceding claim[[s]] 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the handle body is secured to the side of the apparatus via a rotating pivot [[(143)]].

14. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the first fixing element [[(13)]] is supported by one end of the handle body, opposite relative to said pivot of the end to which the gripping member [[(141)]] is connected.

15. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 14, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the first fixing element [[(13)]] and the second fixing element [[(22)]], secured to the rack, have complementary shapes making it possible to fasten them to one another when the apparatus is pushed into the rack to be fixed.

16. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the first element [[(13)]] is formed of a hook and the second element [[(22)]] is formed of a projecting pin [[(221)]] that can be moved along a slide [[(222)]] formed in the rack and is associated with a spring [[(223)]] calibrated so that the operation of the handle causes said calibrated spring to be placed in tension.

17. (currently amended): The fixing device according to ~~one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises further comprising~~ first fixing elements on two opposite sides of the apparatus, these first fixing elements being moved by the operation of two handles ~~(14, 14a)~~ in order to interact with second fixing elements secured to the rack, and in that it comprises two locking mechanisms ~~(15, 15a)~~ substantially identical for each of said handles.

18. (currently amended): The fixing device according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the gripping members ~~(141, 141a)~~ of the two handles join together to form a central bar ~~[(145)]~~ allowing the two handles to be operated simultaneously.

19. (currently amended): A rack equipped with at least one apparatus fixed by means of a fixing device according to ~~one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ it has, on each of its side walls ~~[(21)]~~ situated facing one side of the apparatus ~~[(12)]~~ along which is situated a handle body ~~[(142)]~~, an area of reduced thickness allowing said handle body to be housed.